



September 30, 2004

Dear State Employee Food Drive Coordinators:

Your hard work and dedication over the past quarter century has touched the lives of so many of our fellow citizens in the greater Sacramento area. People don't plan to need emergency food – it just happens. A sudden illness, a job loss through layoff due to a company's closure, the transmission going out on what was reliable transportation needed for work, a separation or divorce with the sudden loss of income – any of these events can put us in a food line. Today, the loss of income due to military duty can be devastating to a family's economic security. Thank God, the employees of the State of California are there to help. Your efforts make a difference in the lives of many, many needy people.

California Emergency Foodlink (Foodlink), serves as the coordinator of emergency food throughout the State of California. Foodlink is the largest Food Bank in the nation, with its warehouses taking up over 29 acres in Sacramento, Fresno and Los Angeles. We operate the emergency food assistance programs with the California Department of Social Services, which helped create Foodlink in 1992.

Since then, over three quarters of a billion pounds of emergency food has been distributed throughout the state of California. Can by can, we feed the poor.

Here in Sacramento, Foodlink supplies food to over 100 local agencies and programs, including Senior Gleaners, which provides food to over 100 additional agencies in our area. Your donations touch these agencies and the people they serve every day throughout the year. Enclosed with this letter is a current listing of programs benefiting from your food drive. Foodlink collects and distributes food from Raley's Food for Families program, the U.S. Postal Workers Food Drive, and the State Employees Food Drive, along with USDA Commodities and Foodlink's nationally recognized Donate Don't Dump program, (a fresh and perishable food recovery program) to these agencies. The economic impact of Foodlink's efforts in our local area is over \$8 million – it wouldn't be possible without you.

With all this food you might think that we are meeting the need, and that all the poor families in our area are being helped. Unfortunately this isn't true. In the present economic environment, our agencies report the need is greater than ever. A successful State Employee's Food Drive is necessary if we are to meet the increased demand. HELP!!

Donations of cash also help to feed the poor. Your cash donations allow Foodlink to buy wholesale lots of food throughout the year for distribution. There is never a charge for any of the food that is distributed by Foodlink. One hundred percent of your donations go to feeding the poor.

Thank you again for your help. If you have any questions please call us at Foodlink or visit our web site at [www.Foodlink.org](http://www.Foodlink.org). Better yet, come visit us at the old Sacramento Army Depot on Fruitridge Road just east of Power Inn. Call Cindy to arrange a tour at (916) 387-9000x 164.

With every good wish,

John Healey  
President & CEO